

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 10002 061513Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 MC-02 ACDA-10 EB-07 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 AID-05 IGA-01 /090 W

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R 061424Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5666

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

DIA WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BEIRUT 10002

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SA, US, JO

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SAUDI PRESSURE ON U.S. OVER ARMS TO JORDAN

1. SAUDIS ARE PUTTING TREMENDOUS PRESSURE ON U.S. TO SUPPLY JORDAN WITH ARMS, ACCORDING TO "VERY RELIABLE NON-DIPLOMATIC SAUDI SOURCE" QUOTED IN EXCLUSIVE REPORT BY LOCAL ARAB NEWS AGENCY ON AUGUST 6.

2. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, SAUDIS BELIEVE INTRODUCTION OF SOVIET ARMS INTO JORDAN WOULD CONSTITUTE MENACE TO SAUDI ARABI AND HAVE FORMALLY COMMUNICATED THIS BELIEF TO PRESIDENT FORD. AS A RESULT, "U.S. WILL ABANDON ITS RECALCITRANCE AND AGREE TO SUPPLY JORDAN WITH THE QUANTITIES OF ARMS INVOLVED UNDER THE SAUDI-FINANCED DEAL." A SAUDI NOTABLE, PERHAPS PRINCE SULTAN, WILL FLY TO WASHINGTON WITH HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO PRSUE EFFORTS TO FINALIZE DEAL. SENATOR MANSFIELD WAS INVITED TO SAUDI ARABIA TO OBTAIN VIEWS OF KING KHALID AND GROWN PRINCE FAHD IN THIS REGARD, AND KING HUSSEIN MAY VISIT RIYAD IN NEAR FUTURE TO DISCUSS DEAL IN LIGHT OF TALKS NOW TAKING PLACE BETWEEN MANSFIELD AND KING KHALID.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 10002 061513Z

3. COMMENT: PUBLISHER OF ARAB NEWS AGENCY BULLETIN ASSURES
US THAT HIS SOURCE IS VERY RPT VERY RELIABLE, BUT DECLINES
TO IDENTIFY HIM BY NAME.
GODLEY

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NNN

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